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Newsletter

Number 12

13 May 2011



Website www.matarau.school.nz

Phone / Fax (09) 433 5823 **Email** – admin@matarau.school.nz

Thanks

... To Maria Fribbens for her Famous scones dropped to the staffroom today.

.. To the Whangarei Seventh-day Adventist Church, The Adventist Relief and Development Agency, and the Sanitarium Health Food Company for donation of healthy breakfast parcels for some of our families - presented on a random basis to certain families this week.

People of the week

.. Emma for being awarded "Player of the Day" for Matarau Yr 4/5 Netball Team.

Maddison for being awarded "Play of the Day" for Matarau Yr 3/4 Netball Team.

.. Those awesome children who have committed to our after school literacy programme (and their parents for fitting this in to their busy schedules)

.. Mrs Witte who has been an incredible help with this programme - Mrs Witte has been present every day - couldn't have done it without her.

.. Our PMP parents - we haven't forgotten you!

Our supporting Virtue for the next 5 weeks is ..

.. COMPASSION

SORRY .. didn't get this out to you last week. Please find support material attached to this newsletter for you to share at home. Let us know where we can help. GOOD LUCK!

Remember to ..

.. take the time to discuss the attached material with your child(ren) at home.

.. discuss times when you have / do apply this virtue in your own lives.

.. seek out some opportunities for application over the next few weeks.

.. advise us of your successes so that we can share these with others.

Dental Caravan

The dental caravan is now on site and the attending therapists are Christine Fraser and Suzanne Joass. The caravan will operate on Wednesdays and Fridays for an, as yet, unspecified period. Remember this is principally a diagnostic caravan which will only do very minor preventative work and make referrals where necessary.

Parents have been asked ..

.. To ensure they have returned dental enrolment / consent forms. Forms were issues today to children who have not yet returned their forms. Please get these back to the school office next week as children will not be seen if their form has not been returned.

..
..

... Please do not call at the clinic (unless the door to the clinic is open) as the therapists may be taking x-rays and will be unable to come to the door. The clinic can be contacted through the school office.

Dates for this month

We will advise other events as these come to hand.

26 May HPV vaccination - Year 8 girls
27-29 May 20 Hour Famine
31 May Choir visit to Hurupaki School

Change of date

Please note that the date for the Year 7 and 8 Winter Tournament has been moved to 2 June (not 3 June as formerly advised).

School Contribution

Those who opted for term contributions will receive a payment request next week. These payments are voluntary but are encouraged and very much appreciated. Always let us know if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements.

Headlice inspection

.. coming up 20 May. Thanks to those who have offered to assist with this.

Medication

If we hold medication for your child please remember to drop by to the office when next passing to check the currency of this medication.

Cellphones

We discourage children from bringing cellphones to school but we realise that cellphones are a good idea in specific circumstances. If your child does bring a cellphone to school it is important that they drop it to the office on arrival and pick it up after school. We promise to look after them.

Health Curriculum Consultation

We are required under the Education Act to consult on the health curriculum every two years. Currently the following general units of work are taught in some way or form ..

EVEN YEAR

HEALTH & P.E.

Physical Education - games, sport, exercise, recreation.

Integrate concepts from one or more of the following

Self Esteem / Personal Identity
Interpersonal Skills (resolving conflict)

Sexuality Education

ODD YEAR



Integrate concepts from one or more of the following

Hygiene / caring for the body
Nutrition / staying healthy
Safe practices / Keeping safe (incl Roadsense)/
Helping Agencies

Sexuality Education

A meeting will be held in the principal's office Tuesday 24 May 3:15 PM for any parents who are interested in further discussing provision of the health curriculum. Alternatively email Kevin on principal@matarau.school.nz if you have any questions or suggestions. If there are any additional areas you would like to see us cover (or perhaps cover in greater depth) please advise.

Please advise Helen in the office if you will be at this meeting.

20 Hour Famine

As advised in the last newsletter, this year's famine is scheduled for 27-29 May. Children in years 6 to 8 may participate in the famine at your discretion. If you would like your child to participate please return the consent form sent out last week and we will issue them with their sponsor booklet. Parents may be required to assist with the solicitation of sponsors and collection of sponsors' money post-famine. Further consent forms are available from the school office.

Music Lessons at school

If interested in piano or keyboard lessons for your child(ren) please give Kevin a call next week. There is a possibility of tutors visiting during school time if there is sufficient interest. The cost would be \$18 for 20 minutes / \$22.50 for 30 minutes. Tutors are apparently pretty experienced.

Request from Room 9

Room 9 is doing some mosaic work here at school this term. We have been supplied with tiles to beautify our school. We require 3-4 adult helpers each Friday morning to assist us with this 9-10.30 am. Any adult able to help please contact me at school asap as we'd like to get under way soon. Please contact Kaye Witte if you are able to assist us.

Request from Middle Syndicate

Middle Syndicate is running a rotational afternoon on Friday's from 1.30pm-3pm. I require some parent helpers to assist me with a gymnastic session. 3-4 helpers needed each Friday afternoon starting Week 2. Please see or contact Kaye Witte if you can help out.

Bible in Schools 2011

A reminder that parents may opt children either in or out of the Bible in Schools Programme but we would like classes settled by week 3 please.

Maori Liaison Person

The Board is keen to appoint a Maori liaison person to act as a contact and support person for Maori families and to advise the Board where appropriate. If you would like to discuss your availability / suitability for such a role please give Kevin a call or have a chat to a board member.

Matarau School Recipe Book

Thank you to those who have supplied recipes. We have now started putting the book together but can see we still require a few more recipes. If you have any old family favourites please could you email faithfull.family@xtra.co.nz or pop a hard copy in to Helen at the office. Kids are encouraged to be involved too. Who knows we may find NZ's next Master Chef amongst us!

Choir .. can you help?

Please make contact Mrs Williams (Grace) if able to accompany our choir on any of their off-site visits - 31 May, 5 July and 8 August.

Netball fees

Please note that netball fees must be paid as soon as possible. If you have not already done so, please forward payment to school URGENTLY so that we can pay the Netball Association on your behalf.

Bus Children - High Visibility Vests

Please continue to insist that children have these vests on before they leave home each day.

Zumba

Our zumba tutor is no longer taking sessions here at school but we have had an approach from another provider. We are not sure what interest there is in this so .. if you would likely attend Zumba classes here in the school hall on one evening a week, please give Kevin a call.

Tutoring - year 7 and 8

English and maths. 3:45 to 4:30 - 5:00 to 5:45. If interested phone Anita on 4380457.

Community Notices

Trivial Pursuit Night - Kamo Intermediate School, Saturday 9th July, 7pm, Lucky spot prizes, raffles, auction, entertainment. \$90 per team of 6. No Door sales, Book at Office 4350343

Toolbox Parenting - Try out new strategies to help you be a great parent, 3 different ages groups Early Yrs (0-6), Middle Yrs (6-12), Tween/Tee Years (12+). Courses starting 12 May, contact Debbie 4335040 or 0272527077 or email northlandtbx@parentsinc.org.nz.

Whangarei Academy of Gymnastics - vacancies in all of the following classes; Play Gym for pre- schoolers, Gym Fun for school age boys and girls, (particularly school aged boys on Mondays from 4pm), Competition Gymnastics for boys and girls, and Trampoline, both recreational and competitive. Starts in Term 2. For more information, and to register for a class, please phone Marianne on 09 435 2990 Mon - Thur or e-mail, wags.gym@extra.co.nz

Storytime Character Hunt - Sunday 15 May, 10.30-12.30, Whangarei Central Library, The annual scavenger hunt for favourite storybook characters. Loads of fun for everyone. Don't miss it! All children attending must have an accompanying adult.

Aladdin Pantomime - presented by Kamo High School, 22 May @ 2pm and 23-28 May @ 7pm. Enquiries and Bookings phone 4351688.

School Newsletter .. If you would like to receive this by email contact us on admin@matarau.school.nz

Skids After School Programme

Kia Ora, Skids is offering a fun filled after school care programme during 2011. Please register your interest by ringing or txt Kylie on 0278461724.

Alternatively pop into the hall after school to find out more information.

Skids offer safe and reliable after school care with a focus on a well

structured, balanced programme offering fun activities to your school for your children, giving parent's and caregiver's peace of mind.



Supporting our school sports teams

Most of you will know that sideline disputes are becoming a bigger and bigger part of Saturday sport - some such incidents have received wide publicity. Schools throughout the country are mobilising to ensure, where possible, that parental input is positive and constructive. Our parents are fantastic and the support you give is very much appreciated. Adherence to the following basic guidelines tends to mitigate or eliminate most problems ..

.. do not comment on referee decisions (in refraining from this you will have sent an important life's message to our children)

.. support the coaches - they have a difficult job and were the ones who "put their hands up" for the job

.. if you see a need don't stop short at a suggestion .. offer your time and effort to make it happen - in most cases your offers of help will be received with open arms

.. be constructive and positive .. winning is great but sport should also be fun.

We wish you many happy Saturdays on the sideline. Please keep us posted on any special sporting achievements so we can celebrate these through the school newsletter.

Sponsors

Our sponsors support our school. Please use their services when you can.

Mrs Donaldson

Mrs Donaldson will be taking maternity leave at the end of this term. While she will be very much missed we are encouraged by her determination to be back on board at some stage next year. Miss Downey will replace Mrs Donaldson for the period of her absence. Miss Downey is a superb teacher who knows our systems and has been working alongside Mrs Donaldson to ensure a seamless transition.

Mrs Williams (Julie)

I am sad to advise that Mrs Williams has resigned her teaching position effective 9 May due to ill health. Mrs Williams has been diagnosed with Meniere's disease and this has made the last month very difficult for her. The Board and staff wholeheartedly support this decision.

I would like to thank Mrs Williams for her dedication and professionalism during the period of her employment with Matarau School. Mrs Williams' loyalty to the school, and her unwavering commitment to delivering a high quality programme, are without question. We owe her a huge thanks.

There is strong interest in Mrs Williams' position and we will soon be announcing a more than suitable replacement. Every effort will be made to ensure that the class programme is minimally impacted by these changes. It is Mrs Williams' desire to get back to teaching as soon as she is able and so we look forward to having her back on deck in future in some capacity.

And Finally

What do you get if you cross a flea with a rabbit? Bugs Bunny.

Regards

Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL

Our Sponsors support your
children, please support them



- Ⓢ These will be available for \$3.00 each.
- Ⓢ Orders to the Office by 9.00am on Monday.
- Ⓢ If any parent would like to help serve please contact the Office.
- Ⓢ We will be trialling these options this term. If you have any other suggestions please give us a call.

Lunches now available on Monday's (beginning Week 3)

Baked Beans or Spaghetti served with
grated cheese and a juice

OR

Chicken or Beef Cup of Noodles and a
juice



The Matarau Mid-Winter Masquerade

is coming
16th July 2011

Watch this space